Atty. Dkt. No. 047940-0139



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Koichi MASUDA et al.

Title:

ENGINEERED INTERVERTEBRAL

DISC TISSUE

Appl. No.:

10/084,640

Filing Date:

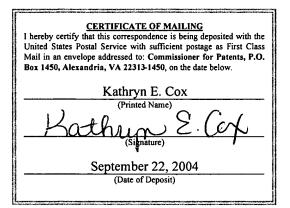
2/25/2002

Examiner:

David M. Naff

Art Unit:

1651



## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed August 27, 2004, applicants hereby provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-8 and 14-19. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement between Groups I and II for the reasons discussed below.

The one-month time set for response to the restriction requirement is September 27, 2004. Therefore, applicants believe this response is timely filed. Applicants believe no fee is due for this filing. However, should any fee be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fee in connection with this submission to Deposit Account No. 50-2350. A duplicate copy of this Response is enclosed for such purposes.